

STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Agenda Consideration

TOPIC: Division School Choice Plan 2004-2005 **ITEM NO:** 5

PREPARED BY: Andrea L. Bengier, Ed. D. *ALB*
Assistant Superintendent for
Instruction and Technology

MEETING: August 6, 2004
ACTION DATE: August 6, 2004

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT: That the School Board review and approve the Division School Choice Plan for 2004-2005.

KEY POINTS:

- It is anticipated that Stafford County Public Schools may have elementary Title I schools that will not demonstrate continued improvement as required by No Child Left Behind. In that event those schools will be designated as a "school choice" schools where parents have the opportunity to transfer their child(ren) to another school. Staff has worked to develop a time line for the implementation of school choice if that should become necessary.
- If the school division is notified of school choice, a plan will be developed, approved by the School Board and submitted to the Virginia Department of Education Office. A separate individual school corrective action plan will also be completed and submitted.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL: Goal #1 - Provide educational excellence through instruction that establishes high expectations for *all* students yet recognizes the unique needs of each learner.

FUNDING SOURCE: No Child Left Behind Consolidated Funds and local instructional funds.

AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE: Federal Law No Child Left Behind, Virginia Department of Education, Office of Program Administration and Accountability

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM

2004-2005

Stafford County Public Schools

TIMELINE:

July 24, 2004	Preliminary results of AYP status received by SCPS
July 26, 2004	Supervisors and Coordinators for Department of Instruction reviewed preliminary results
July 27, 2004	Core team meeting for planning procedures for public school choice
July 28, 2004	All principal meeting to discuss individual school preliminary results and to set procedures and calendar for individual school review of preliminary results and required corrections to VaDOE
July 28, 2004	Title I Coordinator contacted by VaDOE for guidance on procedures required by NCLB
July 29, 2004	Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, School Board Member, principals and assistant principals meetings to discuss preliminary results
August 3, 2004	Faculty meetings with building level administration of school required to provide choice; corrective action plan development
August 4, 2004	Core team meeting for planning procedures for public school choice for school designated as school choice school; schools identified for receiving requested choice transfers; schools identified for receiving requested choice transfers for students with disabilities; division corrective action plan development to include staffing options, attendance program support, intervention specialists, achievement teams

August 6, 2004	School Board reviews and approves division school choice plan
August 18, 2004	Anticipated release date on final AYP school status from VaDOE
August 19, 2004	Letters mailed to all parents of schools required to provide choice, including kindergarten students of 2004-2005
	Letter from principals regarding instructional changes for 2004-2005
	Press release provided
August 23, 2004	Parent information meeting at schools required to provide choice; staff invited and encouraged to attend
August 24, 2004	Clerical staff available for processing transfer requests; rank transfers received with priority of lowest performing students; screen transfer requests for children with IEPs
August 27, 2004	Deadline for parent request for transfer to other identified schools
August 28, 2004	Follow through phone contact to parents who did not complete transfer survey
August 30, 2004	Parent notification of students' assignment to new schools; parents need to complete new enrollment forms for receiving schools; follow up with receiving schools for final numbers and possible staffing changes; transportation department notification to parents regarding changes in bus schedules and locations of pick-up and drop off
	Letter from principals thanking those parents who chose to stay at school required to provide choice, encouraging parents to be part of solution for school improvement
September 2, 2004	Notify any staff members of final assignment changes based on impact at receiving schools and school required to provide choice

September 7, 2004 First day of school 2004-2005

September 10, 2004 School choice survey submitted to VaDOE

Stafford County Public Schools

7/29/2004

Created by Andrea L. Bengier, Ed.D.

STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Choice Parent Form

2004-2005

*Please complete this form and mail, call, or fax the information by **August 27, 2004***

Student Name

grade level for 2004-2005

Please indicate your school choice below

_____ I would like my child(ren) to stay at _____ School.

_____ My child receives special education services. (please have someone call me regarding the identified schools for special education services that can meet the needs of my child)

_____ I would like to have my child(ren) attend another school listed below . I have indicated my first, second, third and fourth choices by marking 1,2,3,and 4.

_____ Parkridge Elementary School

_____ Moncure Elementary School

_____ Margaret Brent Elementary

_____ Garrisonville Elementary School

Parents will be notified by **August 30, 2004**, of their child's school assignment.

August 18, 2004

Dear _____ (mail merge)

The SOL scores from the 2003-2004 school year indicate that (school) has achieved **Full Accreditation** from the Virginia Department of Education. (school) was also recently notified by the Virginia Department of Education that the school did not demonstrate continued improvement as required by the federal law No Child Left Behind. There are 35 benchmarks that must be met in order for a school to meet the requirements. (school) met ____ out of the ____ required benchmarks, with the ____ remaining benchmarks incredibly close to meeting the requirement. ____ of the ____ remaining benchmarks were related to attendance of students. The remaining benchmarks were _____.

As a parent whose child is scheduled to attend (school) for the 2004-2005 school year, you may choose to keep your child at (school) or to send your child to a school listed on the enclosed letter/postcard. The law required that we give priority for transfers to the lowest achieving students from low-income families. Bus transportation will be provided if you choose to request a transfer to one of the identified schools.

_____, principal of (school) will be working with you and the faculty to develop and implement new initiatives to improve student achievement, attendance, classroom management and parent involvement. The principal has scheduled a parent information meeting for (date) at (time). I encourage you to attend this important meeting.

Please indicate whether you would like your child to stay at (school) or transfer to one of the identified schools. You may do this by sending in the letter/postcard, calling the school at _____, faxing the school at _____, or coming into the school. We ask that you provide the information or return the postcard by **August 27, 2004**. (principal) will be available to talk with any parents regarding the school choice opportunity.

Thank you for your quick response to the school choice opportunity and for your continued support of Stafford County Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Jean S. Murray
Superintendent